



Communicable Disease Branch Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Weekly Key Points

June 30, 2020

The North Carolina Division of Public Health (NC DPH) Communicable Disease Branch will be releasing COVID-19 weekly key points that includes information discussed on the bi-weekly Tuesday Local Health Department call. Recordings of the call will not be made available; please use the information below as a summary of the topics presented on the call. As guidance changes, please use the most recent information provided. For questions, contact the NC DPH Communicable Disease Branch 24/7 Epidemiologist on Call at **919-733-3419**.

Important updates

- **New:** [CCTO Tools - Uploading Multiple Contacts Job Tool](#)
- **New:** [Guidance for Smaller Residential Settings](#)
- **New:** [Updated Guidance for Larger Residential Settings](#)
- **New:** [Interim Guidance for Migrant Farmworkers, Their Employers, and Housing Providers](#)
- **Updated:** Find My Testing Place (file attached)

Contact Tracing

Currently, there are 77 LHDs entering contacts into CCTO; thank you for your continued effort. As cases increase, we expect increased staffing needs. Our NC COVID-19 model predicts continued case increases into mid-July, when the prediction period ends. CCNC has authorized 550 requests received to date (increase of ~100 from last week). Currently, the state is working on a process for the LHDs to access the new RFQ vendors; we recommend LHDs reach out to RFQ organizations directly. We are developing a process to make requests through the state for those counties that are unable to reach out to RFQ vendors directly.

The CCTO newsletter was distributed on Monday 6/29/20, and included link to a job aid for uploading contact data into CCTO from Excel spreadsheets: [Uploading Multiple Contacts Using Excel](#). Only the CCTO admin for each LHD can upload data; once your county has identified a CCTO admin, please send the name to Luke Keeler (luke.keeler@dhhs.nc.gov) if you have not already done so.

Requesting CCNC surge staff can be done by emailing any of the following:

- cctc-staffing@communitycarenc.org
- Christina Page (cpage@communitycarenc.org)

A survey to the LDHs inquiring about numbers of contact tracers (both currently utilized, and number needed) will be sent out on 7/1/20.



Clinical Infection Prevention Guidance

Executive Order 147 went into effect at 5pm on Friday, June 26. This allows for some easing of restrictions in specific types of facilities, including smaller residential care settings (6 beds or fewer) and specified larger residential care settings (7 beds or more). Currently, this excludes skilled nursing facilities/nursing homes. Guidance for [smaller residential care settings](#) and [larger residential care settings](#) can be found on the NC DHHS website. Visitation in nursing homes is allowed for compassionate care circumstances.

Outbreaks

The congregate living outbreak report will be updated on the NC DHHS website (<https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/dashboard/Weekly-COVID19-Ongoing-Outbreaks.pdf>) on Tuesday, 6/30/20 and Thursday, 7/2/20 instead of Friday due to the July 4th holiday. Please ensure the results package for each outbreak is up to date by 8am on Thursday, 7/2/20, so that the outbreak reporting will be accurately reflected. Counties should be sure to add “last date of onset” and “last positive date” into outbreaks where there are both symptomatic and asymptomatic cases in a single facility. That data should be entered into the results package. Additionally, please make sure you link events to outbreaks as soon as possible. We use this data to determine when outbreaks are closed and removed from the website.

We are currently in the process of closing out outbreaks, so you may hear from the Outbreaks Team over the next couple of weeks. Please reach out to Neeti Karmacharya (neeti.karmacharya@dhhs.nc.gov) if you know of an outbreak that should be declared over.

Migrant Farm Workers

When gathering data regarding COVID-19 positive migrant farm workers, counties should take care to do the following:

- List the occupation of the patient, and name of the farm where the patient is employed.
- If you intend to conduct a site visit, please notify the farmer/grower before visiting the farm; they must be notified prior to your arrival.
- If a patient is a part of an outbreak, link that patient and all other appropriate patients to the outbreak event in NC EDSS.
- List all migrant farm workers under the “Residents/Students/Patrons” portion of the outbreak “Results” package in NC EDSS.
- List all farm owners and additional staff (apart from the migrant farm workers) under the “Faculty/Staff/Employee” portion of the outbreak “Results” package.
- Interim Guidance for Migrant Farmworkers, and Their Employers, and Housing Providers is available here: <https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/guidance/businesses/interim-covid-guidance-migrant-farm-workers--1-.pdf>
- The Toolkit with LHD Steps for Investigation is available on the NC Communicable Disease Manual: <https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/lhds/manuals/cd/coronavirus.html>
- FQHC’s and Community Outreach information is available through the links in the Toolkit.



CVS Testing Partnership

- NC DHHS is launching a new partnership with CVS Health to support baseline testing in skilled-nursing facilities.
- Facilities that have already conducted that testing do not need to repeat testing unless they need to follow up on recently identified cases.
- CVS would bill insurance where possible and DHHS would support any additional costs.
- The CVS team will be reaching out to facilities in phases over the next two weeks to schedule a date for sites that need assistance in completing testing.
- Updates will be provided to local health departments as facilities are scheduled.

Find My Testing Place

Please find attached this week's updated Excel file for LHDs to upload testing sites to *Find My Testing Place*. If you have any questions regarding the omission of testing sites in your county, please send an email to:

SVC_Covid-19TestingSites@dhhs.nc.gov